

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF WAITE HILL, OHIO

March 8, 2021

Pursuant to notice given, the Council of the Village of Waite Hill, Ohio, met via Zoom at 8:06 a.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021, with Mayor Robert A. Ranallo presiding. The following members of Council were present via Zoom:

Ryan Cox
Sam Knezevic
Abby Hiltzley
Marcia Merritt

Karl Scheucher
Richard Steudel
Courtenay Taplin

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Robbi Laps, Law Director Stephen L. Byron, Chief of Police Keith DeWitt, Police Lieutenant Carl Dondorfer, Bob Haynik, Service Director. Jim Raimondo, of Ancora, was also present.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 8, 2021, were previously distributed to Council. Mr. Knezevic moved to approve the minutes as presented, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Hiltzley, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
Nays: None

Motion carried
Minutes approved

Mr. Jim Raimondo discussed the Village's portfolio's performance and goals along with the strategy going forward. Mr. Raimondo excused himself from the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

Resolution No. 2021-5 - "A Resolution authorizing and directing the payment of certain sums" was read. After discussion, Mr. Scheucher moved that said Resolution be adopted as read, which motion was seconded by Mr. Cox.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Hiltzley, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
Nays: None

Motion carried
Resolution No. 2021-5 adopted

Ordinance No. 2021 - 6 – "An Ordinance amending the annual appropriation ordinance of the Village of Waite to change certain appropriations for the year ending December 31, 2020, repealing certain ordinances and declaring an emergency" was read for the first time. Mr. Scheucher moved to suspend the rule requiring that an ordinance be read on three different days, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Hiltzley, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin

Nays: None

Motion carried
Rule suspended

After discussion, Ms. Merritt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-6, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Hiltley, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
Nays: None

Motion carried
Ordinance No. 2021-6 adopted

On behalf of the Communication and Community Outreach Committee Ms. Merritt indicated that there was not much to report, other than an update regarding the skeet shooting that occurs at the Kirtland Country Club in the City of Willoughby. The Mayor had received a call on this matter as well. There was also an inquiry regarding the maintenance of a property on Metcalf Road.

Mr. Scheucher reported that the Finance Committee had met earlier and had executed its standard agenda. The prior year’s revenues had decreased by about \$69,000 and expenses had been up about \$22,000 compared to the previous year.

Ms. Hiltley reported on the actions of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Architectural Board of Review at its February meeting. The Board had reviewed a proposed new residence in Creawood Forest and noted that it did not have a specific style. The applicants will return later with a modified design. They also reviewed a proposed garage on Smith Road by Eagle. The project may require a setback variance. The new home on Metcalf Road was approved. There was also a discussion regarding a Hobart Road property.

Mr. Knezevic, on behalf of the Safety Committee, reported that there had been an increase in traffic contacts. There was a discussion of the Markell property and concerns regarding the security of the residence. The Service Department had removed a tree from the property which presented a threat to the right of way. Chief DeWitt reported that the contractor will be closing the Markell Road bridge at the end of this month; he also noted the spike in fraudulent unemployment claims that have ravaged the State of Ohio. There was a brief discussion regarding the Village’s mutual aid relationships and the Chief noted that the priority for Village officers is that the Village be always have police coverage. The hours of the part-time officers was discussed and the Chief indicated he’d like to move forward with hiring a third part-time officer, but that the hours for part time officers in 2021 should be lower than in 2020.

Ms. Merritt revisited the report of the Communication and Community Outreach Committee, to report that the Village has email addresses for about 87% of the Village’s residences. Regarding the Service Committee, she noted that residents are noting the fine work of the Service Department and thanked Bob Haynik and the members of the Service Department on behalf of the residents. Mr. Haynik noted that the guys have been spending a lot of hours in the truck and that the winter had

some casualties when it came to mailboxes, but that is an unfortunate casualty of the business. Mr. Haynik also indicated that Markell Road will be crack sealed while the bridge is closed. The closure of the bridge also requires some contingency planning for snow plowing of Markell in the very small part of the Village that is on the north/east side of the bridge.

Mayor Ranallo reported that the status of recycling will be communicated to the residents. The Village has not received news on the Hobart Road grant request, meaning that the project will not be moving forward this year. The Village will be renting a mini - excavator in the next week, which may be the next piece of capital equipment that the Village purchases (approximate cost: \$24,000). The Village will be holding its April Council meeting via Zoom and may commence in-person meetings in May. There was a brief discussion regarding the lights on a Metcalf Road property. The Council will be asked to place the renewal of the public and safety services levy on the March 2022 primary ballot (the earliest such an issue would ordinarily be placed on a ballot).

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Taplin moved to adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Ms. Merritt.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Hiltley, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
Nays: None

Motion carried
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Robert A. Ranallo, Mayor

APPROVED: _____, 2021

ATTEST: _____
Robbi Laps, Clerk-Treasurer